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Supply and Distribution of Upland Cotton

For Administrative Use Only

December 11, 1943

Estimates of the supply and distribution of cotton by grades and staple lengths for the current season, require considerable forecasting. Revisions are made as often as additional information becomes available. The basis for making these forecasts is often far from satisfactory and they consist largely of judgments based on information obtained from the French's field force, from trade sources, and from seasonal trends in cotton quality. Changes in weather conditions obviously affect materially the quality of the crop, especially the grade.

In view of the frequent government requests and obvious need for this type of information, estimates are prepared periodically for administrative use only. This is the fourth set of estimates for the current season and supersedes the three sets prepared earlier.

The attached tables show the estimated supply and distribution of upland cotton for the 1941-42 and 1942-43 seasons, and forecasts for the 1943-44 season, as of December 11, 1943. The carry-over figures for 1941, 1942, and 1943 are based on the classification of a representative portion of stocks on-hand each season as of August 1. Production figures in both 1941-42 and 1942-43 are based on the classification of a representative sample of ginnings from these two crops. Total disappearance in both 1941-42 and 1942-43 is computed by subtracting stocks at the end of the season from the season's supply (carry-over plus production). Exports in both of these seasons are based on the classification of cotton exported under lend-lease which accounted for the bulk of the total. Domestic consumption was computed by subtracting exports from total disappearance.

Quality data for the 1943-44 crop is based on the classification of representative samples of cotton ginned through November 30, the assumption of about average weather during the remainder of the season and the Crop Reporting Board's estimate of production as of December 1, converted to running bales. This preliminary estimate plus the final estimate for the 1943 carry-over gives supply. Total disappearance is based on a forecast of domestic consumption and exports. It takes into account (1) prospective supplies of various grades and staples; (2) the current rate of mill consumption along with mill capacity and probable mill labor supply; (3) civilian, military, and lend-lease requirements for cotton textiles, in-so-far as information is available; (4) probable exports under lend-lease and exports to such countries as Canada, and Spain.

These forecasts are not based on any precise statistical measurements, but rather represent an attempt to provide an appraisal of a complicated subject. It is assumed that the war will continue with both Germany and Japan throughout the 1943-44 season. The 1944 carry-over is computed by subtracting the 1943-44 forecast for disappearance from the supply for that season. No allowance is made for cotton destroyed or for the "city crop" which partially compensate each other.

All figures are in running bales. Bureau of the Census reports are the source of the totals for carry-over and production except as otherwise specified.

Grade designations in the tables include the following categories:

"Equivalent grade"	: Extra	: White	: Spotted	: Tinged	: Yellow	: Gray
	: White	: M.F.				
"S.M. & higher"	: G.M.	: S.G.M.	: G.M.	-	-	-
	: S.M.	: G.M.				
		: S.M.				
"Middling"	: M.	: M.	: S.M.	: G.M.	-	: G.M.
"S.L.M."	: S.L.M.	: S.L.M.	: M.	: S.M.	: G.M.	: S.M.
"L.M. & lower"	: L.M.	: L.M.	: S.L.M.	: M.	: S.M.	: M.
	: S.G.O.	: S.G.O.	: L.M.	: S.L.M.	: M.	: B.G.
	: G.O.	: G.O.	: B.G.	: L.M.	: B.G.	
	: B.G.	: B.G.		: B.G.		

Copies of the United States Cotton Quality Report for Ginnings through November 30, 1943 released December 8, 1943 along with supply and distribution tables for 1941-42, 1942-43, and 1943-44 are attached.

Table 3.- Supply and distribution of cotton, 1943-44
(Estimates for administrative use)
(Subject to revision)

Grade and staple length	Supply			Distribution			Carry- over : 1944 :	Carry- over pet. Dis.
	Carry- over : 1943 :	Produc- tion : bales	Total : bales	Dom- estic : bales	Exports : bales	Total : bales		
S.M. & higher:	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	Percent
29/32" & shorter	93	265	358	111	89	200	158	79
15/16" - 1"	161	710	871	458	142	600	271	45
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	372	575	947	482	68	550	397	72
1-1/8" & longer	183	150	333	146	4	150	183	122
Total	809	1,700	2,509	1,197	303	1,500	1,009	67
Middling:								
29/32" & shorter	937	900	1,837	374	301	675	1,162	172
15/16" - 1"	841	1,615	2,456	1,394	283	1,677	779	46
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	1,073	1,250	2,323	1,252	348	1,600	723	45
1-1/8" & longer	307	210	517	272	16	288	229	80
Total	3,158	3,975	7,133	3,292	948	4,240	2,893	68
S.L.M.:								
29/32" & shorter	1,588	649	2,237	698	52	750	1,487	198
15/16" - 1"	1,058	1,875	2,933	1,750	173	1,923	1,010	53
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	862	1,467	2,329	1,390	60	1,450	879	61
1-1/8" & longer	199	125	324	125	12	137	187	136
Total	3,707	4,116	7,823	3,963	297	4,260	3,563	84
L.M. & lower:								
29/32" & shorter	1,168	450	1,618	575	-	575	1,043	181
15/16" - 1"	1,192	646	1,838	661	39	700	1,138	163
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	450	225	675	287	13	300	375	125
1-1/8" & longer	46	15	61	25	-	25	36	144
Total	2,856	1,336	4,192	1,548	52	1,600	2,592	162
All Grades:								
29/32" & shorter	3,786	2,264	6,050	1,758	442	2,200	3,850	175
15/16" - 1"	3,252	4,846	8,098	4,263	637	4,900	3,198	65
1-1/32" - 1-3/32"	2,757	3,517	6,274	3,411	489	3,900	2,374	61
1-1/8" & longer	735	500	1,235	568	32	600	635	106
Total	10,530	11,127	21,657	10,000	1,600	11,600	10,057	87

Food Distribution Administration, Cotton and Fiber Branch
December 11, 1943

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1987	1235	1236	1237	1238	1239	1240	1241	1242	1243
1988	1244	1245	1246	1247	1248	1249	1250	1251	1252
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2085	2117	2118	2119	2120	2121	2122	2123	212	